



Volume 2, Number 3

Pelican Flight



Sept 2002



2002 Encampment: About 80 cadets from Louisiana and Texas were hosted by Barksdale Air Force Base July 13th – 21st for the 2002 Louisiana Wing Summer Encampment. The Encampment is designed to help young people from the 6th grade to age 21 to develop leadership skills, learn about the latest development in Aerospace Education and to develop an appreciation of the U.S. Military.



Commander's Corner



Mary D. Berkowitz, Colonel, CAP

At the National Board Meeting, Louisiana Wing received two awards. The Counter Drug Mission Award and the Safety Award for Southwest Region.

This fiscal year the National organization has experienced 9 aircraft accidents. On the 31st of

August Louisiana Wing suffered an aircraft accident during a cadet orientation flight. Fortunately no one was injured. The investigation into the accident is underway and the cause has not been determined. However, I would like to ask ALL PILOTS to review their procedures in and out of the cockpit to insure that everything you do in the process of preparing for and actually flying a mission is focused on safety related thinking. Louisiana has had a proud safety record due to the continued efforts of all members working extra hard to be safe. **THINK SAFE! BE SAFE!** (Continued page 2)

Encampment (con't)

C/ MSGT Jeff Salles

This year's Encampment was a hard but exciting week for the first year cadets. The first years worked hard and spent long hours perfecting their drilling skills, learning how to make their beds the military way, studying knowledge sheets, and seeing all there is to see on a working Military Base. This year we had so many first year cadets that we were able to have 6 flights, one being Echo flight, an all female flight. The girls were a little scared about an all female flight, but once they started earning the honor flight of the day they seemed to fall right into things. At the end of Encampment Echo flight came out on top earning Honor Flight of the Encampment. Their TAC officer Lt. Teresa Robichaux was extremely proud of her girls and the great job they did. There was also an advanced flight. These were cadets that were returning for their second encampment.

The first day was a little scary for some first year cadets. A lot of yelling and a piece of paper handed to them, which they were told to study, learn, and memorize. The Security Forces came out and gave a lecture and demonstration of how they would handle a hostage situation. This woke everyone up. The dog team was also impressive. The cadets got to handle the weapons and equipment that were there.

As the week progressed the first years started to ease into their daily routines. Most were getting use to being up at 5:00am. By mid-week the tours were starting and the fun was beginning. Most of the first years agreed that shooting the M-16 rifles was the best. They got to test their marksmanship and keep the record of either their hits or misses. Other high points were the B-52 simulator where the cadets actually got to sit in a mock cockpit and actually fly a B-52. It was the same simulator that the B-52 pilots use to train on. Another high point for cadets was the Life Support. Here you were strapped into a Virtual Reality simulator and dropped out of a plane and had to parachute to the ground. Most didn't make it alive. Other tours included a trip to the Fire Department and the Load facility where they store and load the bombs used for the B-52's. The cadets were also treated to a trip to the flight line where they boarded a B-52, and got to see the inside of an A-10. Most of the first years said they had a great time sitting in the cockpit of the B-52 even though they had to climb a lot of stairs to get there.

(Con't page 3)

Commander's Corner Con't

Brig. General Bowling has established a "National Commander's 'Sights On Safety' (SOS) Program. Copies of General Bowling's letter will be forwarded to all units. This program is "mandatory for wings, and encouraged but optional for squadrons. Wing programs will be judged and the wing with the best overall S.O.S. Program will receive a cash grant of \$5,000, second place will receive \$3,000, and third place will receive \$2,000. Squadrons are not mandated to prepare S.O.S. Programs, for those that do, there will be a competition for first, second, and third place. Winners will receive grants of \$2,000, \$1,000, and \$500 respectively. Squadron Commanders are asked to review the letter and begin preparation for your local program. Squadron Commanders should notify Wing Headquarters if they plan to put forth a program.

I am pleased to say that cadet membership is increasing and our Cadet Program has been very busy this summer with encampment, IACE, and special activities. Plans are underway to form a Louisiana Wing Cadet Competition Team to compete in the SWR competition. If you have cadets who are interested in participating with this team, please make a special effort to get them to the Drill Team practices. Without the support of the senior members, the cadet program cannot continue to flourish.



(Photos for article by C/MSGT Jeff Salles)

Billy Mitchell Senior Squadron Receives Aerospace Excellence Award

Capt. Anthony L. Patti

The Billy Mitchell Senior Squadron (BMSS) received the Aerospace Excellence Program Award for 2002. The program requires the squadron to conduct an aerospace education topic each month from January through June and to hold an Aerospace Education activity that last at least three hours at some point during the six month period. Though primarily designed for cadet squadrons, the BMSS, with the approval of the program's directors, adapted the syllabus to better fit a senior squadron. Several of the aerospace activities revolved around discussions of Civil Air Patrol's Aerospace mission and BMSS's contribution toward that mission. The Aerospace Activity was a trip to Keesler AFB to meet and tour the Hurricane Hunter's facilities. Participants were treated to a briefing by one of the Hurricane Hunters and a chance to walk through one of the aircraft.

Capitol City Composite Squadron

Capt. Lois Hopwood

There has been a lot going on within the squadron for the last few weeks. The cadets have been doing their testing and have been passing. Capt. Mark Ducote has been doing an excellent job with the cadets. 2Lt. Joyce Ducote, the testing officer, is doing a wonderful job getting them tested. She has been the testing officer since the loss of Capt. Efferson.

Our squadron has been trying to obtain the land behind the squadron building for a taxiway and place to keep the airplane. We have spoken with the planning committee and we are making good progress. Major Davis, LTC Scarbrough, CPT Yglesias, and LTC Pourciau have done a very impressive job of representing us.

Our new senior programs director Shael Stringer is doing a good job testing new members making them ready to be active in the squadron. He is anxious for all of us to give him ideas for new programs, and is open to suggestions.

By the end of the week most of the cadets were ready to relax and finally be able to talk to each other without getting a demerit for it. The pool party was a real hit. Cadets got to swim and interact with each other. The social was equally as fun for all. Time to finally drink something besides water and eat pizza!!

But all good things must come to an end, and so did Encampment. The final two days were filled with Drill competition between the flights and practice for the pass and review. All of the cadets that I talked to said they had a great time and can't wait to come back next year either as staff or Advanced flight. It was a rough beginning but in the end it was an experience they would want to do again.

Lots of friendships were forged and lots of blisters were made, but in the end everyone went home with the feeling of pride that they accomplished a week of hard work and a lot learned. Everyone agreed that it's definitely worth it.

LTC Gist is trying to set up a trip to Keesler AFB or maybe have a plane come here. This will happen sometime during the month.

Drill Team Try-Outs

C/Capt. Jacob Badeaux

The Louisiana Wing will be restarting a drill team this year. For those of you who may not be familiar with the drill team, it consists of a regional competition followed by a national competition between every wing in CAP. On the national level, each drill team competes in seven different events, which include:

- a. Standard Drill
- b. Innovative Drill
- c. Uniform Inspection
- d. Aerospace/Leadership Quiz Bowl
- e. Aerospace/Leadership Written Multiple Choice Exam
- f. Physical Fitness Test
- g. Volleyball Tournament

In the past, Louisiana has dominated this activity with a string of national championships: 1995, 1998, and 1999! Now, I am asking all cadet and composite squadron commanders to please support the new team by informing all of your cadets of this fun and exciting activity. Let's bring Louisiana back to the top where it belongs!

There will be two different try-outs available for the team. The first try-outs will be held on 14-15 September 2002, and the second set will be held that following weekend on 21-22 September 2002. Both try-outs will last from 9 a.m. on Saturday to around 12 p.m. on Sunday. The try-outs will be located at the Capitol City Composite Squadron Building in Baton Rouge, LA. Please note that each cadet must only attend one of the try-outs to be considered for the team, but attending both is permitted and encouraged to all those who can. Also, as you can see, both of the try-outs are in the very near future, so please be sure to inform your cadets of this activity as soon as possible.

Sign-in will last from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m., and all cadets should arrive wearing their Class B Blues with tie. However, cadets will not be drilling in this uniform so they must bring some comfortable PT clothes (see list below).

Cadets as well as senior members are urged to come out to the try-outs and see what


the team is all about, so I encourage all senior members who are available to also come and help out or support the team in any way that they can.

Each participant should bring the following items if they have them:

- a. **Medical Release Form and CAP Membership Card (You will be sent home if you do not have both of these items!)**
- b. ***Leadership: 2000 and Beyond, Volume I***
- c. **Aerospace Modules or Aerospace Textbook**
- d. **Drill and Ceremonies Manual**
- e. **Blues Uniform** (Must be worn to the practice. Bring all accessories and items except service coat.)
- f. **Physical Fitness Clothes** (Bring something comfortable to run, drill, and play volleyball in – if you forget these clothes, you will have to run in whatever else you have.)
- g. **Food** (Bring non-perishable food for three meals or money for fast food.)
- h. **Sleeping Clothes, Pillow, and Sleeping Bag**
- i. **Toiletries** (You must bring a tooth brush and deodorant.)

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns regarding the drill team or the first try-outs, please feel free to email me (jtbadeaux@hotmail.com) or call me (225-932-9469). Please share this information with as many cadets as possible, and I hope to see as many of you there at the try-outs as possible!

"As soon as we left the ground I knew I, myself, had to fly."



Amelia Earhart after her first flight in
1920

Lafayette Senior Squadron

Cpt. Kerry Ordes

August has been a busy month for the Lafayette Senior Squadron. Members participated in the Monroe SAREX, and successfully completed its assigned mission. Several squadron members flew to Pensacola in 9677A to participate in training at USAF

to familiarize a couple of newer members with CAP and FAA procedures. The squadron also flew back-to-back SAR missions, first to Abbeville and then to Reserve to track down ELTs (both were negative).

Gretna Cadet Presented Earhart



Left to Right:

Col. Ben Soileau, Commander 159th Fighter Wing, Air National Guard, C/Cpt. Christie Ducote, Major Michael Traylor, Commander, Gretna Cadet Squadron.

Cadet Advisory Council, Olympiad, and LACCT News!

Major Clyde Robichaux

On Saturday, 24 August 2002 the Cadet Advisory Council (CAC) elected officers. The results of that election are as follows:

CAC Chair	C/Capt. Jacob Badeaux
Vice Chair	C/Lt. Matthew Jasinski
Recorder	C/Lt. Rene Cabirac

These Cadets are very active in LAWG Cadet activities and they bring a great deal of energy and enthusiasm to their respective offices.

In the future you will receive notification of CAC sponsored events directly from the CAC Officers. This information will have been cleared by me and should be treated as an official communication.

C/Capt. Jacob Badeaux has also agreed to assume the responsibility of Command of the

Louisiana Cadet Competition Team (LACCT). This is a daunting task, involving monthly practices, much planning, and the highest possible level of dedication.

C/Capt. Badeaux will also be communicating directly with you regarding LACCT. His communications will include items such as practice schedules, required items for practices, and special announcements.

Please treat any communications you receive directly from C/Capt. Badeaux as though they had come directly from me. Every item he will send out will be cleared for release by the Cadet Programs Staff and will be important to both CAC sponsored activities and LACCT activities.

Life Support Training for Gretna Cadets



C/MSGT Alex Stanton - Gretna Cadet Squadron

Air Force Days are a regularly scheduled part of Gretna Cadet Squadron's (GCS) meetings. Being hosted by the 159th Fighter Wing in Belle Chasse, Louisiana gives us ample opportunity to learn about the different career fields and opportunities in the Air Force.

July's Air Force Day was a trip arranged by Capt. Chris Barraco of the GCS. Cadets were able to meet with and speak to pilots, and observe an F-15 night launch with afterburners. C/MSGT Alex Stanton was suited up in pilot's G-suit and trained on egress maneuvers from a grounded F-15.

Cadet Stanton received an abbreviated version of the egress training that F-15 pilots

receive. Cadet Stanton was then placed in a simulated F-15, complete with lowered canopy. He had 15 seconds to completely disengage himself and exit the simulator. Cadet Stanton did a great job, exiting in only 20 seconds - not bad for a first time, especially with only a five-minute lesson!

This One Time....At Encampment...

2LT Joey Langlinais

(BARKSDALE AFB, LA) – The Lafayette Cadet Squadron really got a chance to shine at this year's Summer Encampment at Barksdale Air Force Base. The Cadet Commander was none other than our very own Cadet 1LT Kale LeBlanc, who was assisted by Cadet 2LT Matthew Vankerkhove. Cadet 1LT Matt Payne served as a Squadron Commander, Cadet TSgt Garreth Boyd was a First Sergeant and Cadet MSGT Thomas Guidry served as a Flight Commander. Senior members serving on the encampment staff included Captain Dale LeBlanc who was a Flight Tactical Officer, and 2LT Joey Langlinais who was one of the Medical Officers.

For the first year cadets, we shined even brighter. Cadets Philip Daspit, Blake O'Hara and Robert Buckles had positions of honor when they were selected to be guidon bearers for their flights. While we showed what we were made of during the encampment, it continued on through the graduation. At that ceremony, Encampment Commander Major Clyde Robichaux presented Cadet Drake Biessenberger with the Warrior Spirit Award and O'Hara with the Honor Cadet Award.

For the first year cadets, the encampment started on Saturday, July 13 when they arrived at the Airman Leadership School and were quickly shown that the encampment staff meant business. After they were assigned to their respective flights, the Barksdale AFB Security Police addressed the cadets and provided a demonstration of their strike team and dog units.

Throughout the rest of the encampment, cadets learned drill and ceremony, customs and courtesies, and received briefings on various aspects of the

Air Force. They also had the opportunity to get into a B-52 Simulator, tour the Bomb Loading area and look up close at an A-10 attack jet and a B-52 bomber. Cadets were also taken to the firing range where they fired an M-16 Machine gun.

By the time Sunday July 21 rolled around, everyone was ready to head back to Lafayette. But all in all, the experience was one well worth the effort. It gave us all the opportunity to make new friends, learn more about CAP and the Air Force, and to learn a lot about ourselves.

SPECIAL THANKS to the U. S. Army Reserve Center for making their facility available to us for squadron meetings. Be sure to tell Ms Jan thanks when you see her at the center.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS: Cadet Airman Basic Brandon Brown, Cadet Airman Basic Chris Farmer, Cadet Airman Basic Tyler Thibodeaux, Cadet Airman Basic Chris Taylor, Cadet Airman Basic Daniel Jurek, Cadet Airman Basic Ronnie Thacker, Cadet Airman Basic Chris Vidrine, Cadet Airman Basic Jade Guidry, Cadet Airman Basic Jordan Landry, Cadet Airman First Class Christian Williams and Cadet Airman First Class Sara Williams.

PROMOTIONS: Thomas Guidry to Cadet Chief Master Sergeant, Robert Buckles to Cadet Airman First Class, James Blankenship to Cadet Senior Airman.

Congratulations to Cadet Airman Philip Daspit who has been named Squadron PT Officer, Cadet Staff Sergeant Blake O'Hara for getting the Honor Cadet Award at Summer Encampment and for becoming this squadron's Guidon Bearer for a time before being named Element Leader, Cadet Drake Biessenberger for receiving the Warrior Spirit Award for his flight at summer encampment.

"Dad, I left my heart there."

- Francis Gary Powers (CIA U-2 pilot shot down over the Soviet Union) describing his first flight at age 14.

White Crosses

Cadet Matt Jasinski

I have walked in the boundless fields,
an unimaginable expanse of white crosses.
For each one a soldier who honorably paid,
the ultimate sacrifice for his family and friends.
I stand and attempt to comprehend,
the number of people who gave their lives.
I wipe away a tear as my legs begin to tremble,
and I fall to my knees on this sacred ground.
No more can I bear the weight of the tears,
they flow like blood from Jesus' side
and the wounds of America's bravest soldiers,
for the soldiers and their families who received,
with broken hearts and spirits, that folded symbol,
of an endangered dream.
My heart is filled with the hurt,
from the recognition that I may too, one day,
be a white cross on this sea of green, but
the real pain comes, because to so many,
I am, just another white cross.

Louisiana Wing Hosts Hong Kong & UK Visitors



Pictured From left to right are: Front: Vicki Brand (UK), Alex Thomas (UK), Laura Hooke (UK), Olivia Yip (HK), Yvonne Tam (HK), and Tommy Siu (Escort HK). Rear: Ian Bateson (Escort UK), Major John Zaremba.

Cpt. Floyd Miles

IACE BACKGROUND

The International Air Cadet Exchange is an annual exchange of visits by air-minded youth of the U.S., Canada, Europe, the Middle East, East Asia, and the Pacific with the objective of promoting international

understanding, goodwill, and fellowship among the youth of the world.

Pictured from left to right: Tommy Siu, Alex Thomas, Ian Bateson, Yvonne Tam (standing behind Ian), Olivia Yip, Laura Hooke, Vicki Brand. Al Sims is the EAA Pilot and Briefer in the photo.



Civil Air Patrol's participation in the exchange began in 1947 with the arrangements for an exchange of cadets between the CAP and the Air Cadet League of Canada. Since the first exchange of cadets during the summer of 1948, the program has continued to expand. The President of the United States, members of Congress, and the heads of many foreign countries have publicly commended IACE. This program has frequently been cited as a significant contribution toward better understanding among the youth of the world. CAP, the official auxiliary of the United States Air Force, has sponsored U.S. participation in the exchange since its beginning by arranging housing accommodations, travel itineraries, and educational, recreational, and social activities for the foreign cadets while they are in the United States. The hosting organizations of the participating countries also perform these same services for the American cadets. Visits to the U.S. and abroad are just over two weeks in length and provide the cadets an opportunity to visit many areas of their host countries. Cadets visiting the U.S. are hosted by CAP units in the various states. In addition, most are given a special tour of our Nation's Capital. IACE cadets are selected for participation on the basis of demonstrated leadership ability, character, and good citizenship. Each year cadet and escort applications are reviewed and scored. Only the top rated applicants are chosen to attend.

Now for our trivia question...who was that ultra cool IACE Cadet pictured in last edition of Pelican Flight? None other than Major Michael Traylor, Commander of Gretna Cadet Squadron. See what a difference IACE can make!



Before IACE

After IACE

Aerospace Education

The following members have earned their AEPSM Certificate (Yeager Award)

*Capt Earl Boatman
Capt Anthony Patti
1LT Lara Traylor*

All squadrons are reminded to send their monthly AE reports to the Wing Director of Aerospace Education, LTC Robert Suckow.

Don't forget- all Squadron Commanders are to earn the Yeager Award!!!

Mark your calendar

October

12-13 LAWG Cadet Olympiad - Camp Ruth Lee

19-20 LAWG Cadet Drill Team Practice #1

21-25 Inland SAR School - To enroll for the course, submit a completed CAPF17 to Wing HQ ASAP.

Candidates must be approved by both Wing and National prior to the course.

26-27 SAR/DR Practice SAREX at Alexandria

26-27 Air Show - Belle Chasse

November

2-3 SAR/DR Evaluated SAREX

9-10 Squadron Leadership School (SLS) - Class starts at 0930hrs. You must submit a CAP Form 17 to Captain, Joseph F. Starns, CAP at Wing Headquarters before class.

9-10 LAWG Cadet Drill Team Practice #2

30 LAWG Cadet Drill Team Practice #3

December

December 01-02 LAWG Cadet Drill Team Practice #3 (Cont. from November)

7 Winter CAC Meeting - Mid-South Bank Building Lafayette, LA.

7 Wing Staff Meeting

7-8 Corporate Leadership Course (CLC) - You must submit a CAP Form 17 to Captain, Joseph F. Starns, CAP at Wing Headquarters before class.

14 Wing Christmas Party

Pelican Flight is an unofficial newsletter published in the interest of the members of Louisiana Wing, Civil Air Patrol. Opinions expressed by writers and editors are their own and are not to be considered official expression by the Civil Air Patrol Corporation, the United States Air Force, or the publisher. *Pelican Flight* will be distributed electronically on a quarterly basis. Deadline for each quarter's publication shall be the 5th of March, June, September, and December. Hardcopy editions will be made available upon member requests. Please send hardcopy requests to Wing Headquarters, Attention Pelican Flight Editor.

COL Mary Berkowitz Wing Commander 🇺🇸 1Lt Lara Traylor.... Editor